employees of Central Government and Central Public Undertakings subject to fulfilment of certain administrative requirements.

(b) and (c) The requests for posting of husband and wife at the same station are considered by competent authorities in each Ministry|Department in accordance with the above guidelines. If instances of violations of the guidelines are brought to the notice of the Department of Personnel & Training they will be taken up with the concerned Ministry|Department.

Request of Madhya Pradesh Government for allocation of funds for irrigation projects

*417. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have approached the Central Government for allocation of funds for completion of small and medium irrigation projects in that State;

(b) if so, what are the deails in this regard;

(c) whether the said request has since been examined; and

(d) if so, what has been the outcome thereof and by when the financial assistance requested for is likely to be given to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Protection of Medicinal plants

*418. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Botanical Survey of India has identified about twenty medicinal plants which are facing extinction, as reported in the Financial Express of 12th June, 1986; if so, what are the details of Government's plans to protect these plants;

(b) whether the situation has improved since the initiation of measures in this regard; and

(c) whether the Botanical Survey of India has made any concrete suggestions to protect such plants; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Botanical Survey of India is cultivating rare plants of medicinal importance in their Botanic Garden at Calcutta and Experimental Gardens located at different parts of India, in order to evolve methodologies for their propagation, multiplication, acclimatization and suitability for large scale cultivation. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Organisations under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are also engaged in scientific propagation of medicinal plants. Trade and Commerce in endangered plants are not permitted under the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The Government of Meghalaya State has taken action on the recommendations of the Botanical Survey of India, and declared *Nepenthes Khasiana*, habitats, being botanically, biologically and medicinally important and being over-exploited, as "Protected areas" to preserve the plants *in-situ*.

Failure of Scientific Pool Scheme in the CSIR

*419. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to press report which